

**MINUTES
STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD
DOLLIVER STATE PARK LODGE
LEHIGH, IOWA
APRIL 25, 2000**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robin Fortney
Kathy Gourley
Paul Johnson
Gary Phillips
Timothy Sproul
Jonathan Steege, Chair
Lois Tiffany

ADVISORS PRESENT

Diane Ford-Shivvers
Robert McKay

ADVISORS ABSENT

Dorothy Baringer
Rebecca Conard
Jan Nash
Shirley Schermer
Daryl Smith

NRC LIAISON PRESENT

Paul Christiansen

STAFF PRESENT

Daryl Howell
John Pearson
Kevin Arrowsmith
Mark Leoschke
Jim Zohrer

STAFF ABSENT

Mike Carrier

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steege called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVE AGENDA

The following adjustments were made to the agenda:

Add: - Item #5e - Request to Collect Seeds – Cathy Mabry
Add: - Item #11a - White Pine Hollow Eco Plan
Add: - Item #11b - Lamson Woods Trail
Add: - Item #11c - Revision of Cayler Prairie Burn Plan
Add: - Item #12a - Election of Officers

<i>Motion was made by <u>Kathy Gourley</u> to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by <u>Lois Tiffany</u>. Motion carried unanimously</i>

APPROVE MINUTES

Chairman Steege stated that hearing no corrections to the meeting minutes of January 20, 2000 they stand approved as presented.

LAND ACQUISITION

Daryl Howell reviewed that the Board visited the areas around Ft. Atkinson in conjunction with their October meeting. He noted that the small church and an additional small parcel were purchased and he circulated copies of appraisals and some photographs of the properties. Mr. Howell related that the Natural Resource Commission approved this acquisition at their last commission meeting.

Chairman Steege asked how this would fit into the long-range plan for Ft. Atkinson.

Mr. Howell replied that the adjoining property would fit well into the long-range plan and the church could fit into the overall context of the historical value.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Director Johnson reported that the DOT put together a position expressing concern about the Wild Places proposal because it could be a way of making it difficult to build highways in the future. He related that with the legislature that was a large enough red flag to halt it. He stated that staff should think about it for next year and get started earlier, noting that the Department should talk to various interest groups around the state to get them to understand that they can weigh in on these projects and make a difference as well.

Brief discussion followed.

REQUEST TO CONDUCT RESEARCH

Jeffrey Gruber

Mr. Howell stated that Jeffrey Gruber, a graduate student from Wisconsin, is requesting permission to collect anthropods associated with pocket gopher burrows. He noted that the disturbance would be digging one of the tunnels about the size of a basketball, and that he would only be looking at two spots on two preserves. Mr. Howell indicated that it would be a fairly minimal amount of actual disturbance.

Chairman Steege asked if Mr. Gruber would provide the Board with a report on the results of his research.

Mr. Howell noted that requirement will be included in the letter to Mr. Gruber.

Gary Phillips stated that if the Board approves the project, they should request Mr. Gruber to pull down his stakes and flags when the project is complete.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to approve the research request by Jeffrey Gruber. Seconded by Lois Tiffany. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Stephen Heard

Daryl Howell stated that this is a continuation of a study approved last year to collect insect galls of goldenrod species. He related that a report has not yet been received on last year's work but it is forthcoming. Mr. Howell noted that he does not see any problems with this project adding that it is non-intrusive sampling.

Timothy Sproul commented that it should be a prerequisite of approving a project that they provide a report back to the Board.

Brief discussion took place regarding the submission of reports and the occasional the lack of receiving them.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to approve the research request by Dr. Heard as presented. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca West

John Pearson stated that he asked Bob McKay to review this request and related that Bob would report on it.

Bob McKay stated that in this request to study mima mounds and stone lines at Hayden Prairie and Kalsow Prairie, Ms. West is trying to answer a scientific question about the origin of stone lines and how they relate to the origin of mima mounds as produced by pocket gophers. He noted that she is asking to dig some trenches in some of the prairies. He related that it might be interesting to know this information but he is not sure that it provides a lot of benefit to the preserves system in terms of their knowledge base. He noted that the discussion in her proposal about using a ground penetrating radar led him to believe that it was uncertain whether it would be capable of finding the stone lines. He discussed using the geophysical technique and related that they should know whether ground penetrating radar really works at a depth of three feet and can pick up a scattered stone class in this concave configuration under the mound.

Paul Christiansen asked if they would be bringing in a backhoe.

Mr. Pearson noted that they would need a backhoe to dig the ten foot trench.

Kathy Gourley commented that she feels there could be a non-preserve place to do this type of research.

Mr. Pearson stated that the rationale for choosing prairie preserves is that the area has been open for gopher occupation since the time the glaciers left and the soil has not been tilled. He added that on ag land the gophers are controlled so there would not be as full an expression as there would be on a prairie.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to deny the research proposal. Seconded by Timothy Sproul.

John Pearson asked the Board to consider breaking the request into components, as the idea of mapping the mounds is not intrusive, and the ground

penetrating radar is not intrusive without digging. He added that digging to confirm the under ground penetrating radar would be a concern.

Brief discussion followed regarding the ground penetrating radar aspect.

Robin Fortney amended her motion to approve a portion of the research request to allow the non-intrusive measures of mapping and ground penetrating radar, but not allow digging. MOTION FAILED.

Dr. Lois Tiffany

Dr. Lois Tiffany stated that she and George Knaphus have been studying fungal diseases of prairie plants for some years. She related that she and Roseanne Healy's project deals with truffles in Iowa and would have very little disturbance to the soils. She explained details of the project.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to approve the research request as presented. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO COLLECT SEEDS – CATHY MABRY

John Pearson stated that Kathy Mabry is requesting to collect seeds from woodland plants that can be used to restore native woodland plants to disturbed areas. He noted that she would like to collect seeds from Strasser Woods, Berry Woods, Woodland Mounds, Mericle Woods and Woodman Hollow. He related that the seeds would be used for research purposes only.

Brief discussion followed.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to approve the research request as presented. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

CHEEVER LAKE

Delayed to later in the meeting

NATURAL AREAS SEMINAR

John Pearson reported that after the last Board meeting Mike Carrier and Director Johnson discussed problems in regard to funding and staffing for the Natural Areas Inventory. He related that it was decided to try to rededicate some funds that are presently in the Park Operations budget to a Natural Areas Inventory account. He noted that to achieve this funding the following items would need to be done: 1) seek legislative approval for a sub-account to Natural Areas Inventory account; 2) seek legislative approval to raise the Department's FTE cap; 3) seek General Funds to replace the reallocated dedicated funds. These items would need to be included in a legislative proposal this fall for action in the next legislative session. Mr. Pearson noted that one function of a Natural Areas Seminar would be to bring together groups of supporters of the natural areas program who would like to see it revitalized and expanded. He related that staff are looking at holding such a seminar on a Friday in September, adding that the 15th, 22nd, or 29th would be the prospective dates. He noted that the location for the seminar would be the Wallace Building auditorium.

Discussion followed regarding when to hold the meeting and Mr. Pearson related that he would continue to research the proposed dates with the possibility of doing it in late August.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR PRESERVES

Daryl Howell stated that State government is looking at modifying all administrative rules to make them more user friendly. He distributed copies of the rules on Chapter 2, governing the State Preserves Advisory Board and explained same. He related that on Page 3, under the definition of types of preserves, this would be the time to change that language if the Board so desires.

Mr. Howell noted that in discussing the Long Range Plans there had previously been some concern with some of the definitions of the preserves. He asked the Board to get their comments back to him so it can be put into a Notice of Intended Action for the July meeting.

STATE PARK AND PRESERVES GIFT FUND

Kevin Arrowsmith reported that Paul Johnson, and Mark Ackelson of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, signed an agreement that created the State Park and Preserves Gift Fund which will be used for acquiring and protecting lands that are adjacent to or near state parks or preserves. He explained details of the fund program and related that the Department will be working closely with the INHF to promote this in the coming year. Mr. Arrowsmith noted that a web page

will be created to provide information about the fund and a brochure will be produced.

John Pearson stated that the Board might want to commend the INHF for their efforts in this venture.

Discussion followed regarding the procedure to be used in deciding which parks would be targeted for these funds.

Motion was made by Jonathan Steege for the Board to send a letter of commendation to INHF for their part in this effort. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION

Daryl Howell stated that the staff and Board appreciated Jonathan Steege and the hard work and expertise he had provided to the Board for the last eight years. He related that this is also the last meeting for Junie Gookin who would be retiring in July and he commended her for her work in compiling the Board minutes over the past 14 years. Director Johnson presented both Jonathan and Junie with a plaque of appreciation for their work.

John Pearson expressed that it was a pleasure working with Jonathan on the Preserves Board as well as on projects outside the Board, adding that it was a real pleasure working with a professional on these projects. He related that Junie has done consistently good work in taking notes for the Board and helping with whatever needed to be done.

Chairman Steege stated that he liked what had been accomplished by the Preserves Board while he has been a member, but it bothers him to be going off the Board when so much more is happening. He noted that having Paul Johnson and a Governor who is in favor of adding to the REAP fund provides tremendous opportunities ahead. He stated that when he first came on the Board his expertise was more of a woodlands nature than prairie, and he had to learn the prairie aspects. He spoke of his feelings about the land and hearing Paul Johnson speak about Aldo Leopold. He related that there are many things that need to be preserved in addition to the prairies.

PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST

Pat Schlarbaum stated that there is a need to incorporate into the overall plan of protecting the preserves to expand them as well. He related that a plan will be presented at the Board's next meeting to develop some of these areas. He

stated that these rare jewels of the landscape could be used to enhance other areas to provide that same beauty. Mr. Schlarbaum noted that the Fish and Wildlife Service has given very good guidelines on their philosophies at the Neal Smith National Refuge Center. He related that as a Wildlife Bureau, staff is viewing this as a chance to provide the habitat that they have learned. He related that they will miss some of the spring forbs during seed harvest and expanded on details of the project. He noted that the Department of Corrections is interested in working with the Wildlife Bureau on seed harvest. He related that greenhouses are in the potential where the DOC can take local ecotype seed and grow in their greenhouses.

Mark Leoschke stated that staff would like to gather some seed now in order to have some of the spring seed to use in the greenhouse production plots as part of the process of developing a seed base for use on wildlife areas. He noted that since the Board won't meet again until July he would like to request permission now to collect some of the spring species.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to approve the request as presented. Seconded by Robin Fortney.

Robin Fortney asked about the local ecotype issue, how it will be managed, and where planting will be done.

Mark Leoschke stated that they would use Jean Prior's book on Iowa landforms as a guideline.

Mr. Schlarbaum explained how seed harvested at Hayden, Steel, and Cayler was used last year and he expanded on that issue.

Vote on Gary Phillips motion carried unanimously.

Pat Schlarbaum updated the Board on the status of the Peregrine Falcon project.

INTERPRETATION PROGRAM – PARKS AND PRESERVES

Jim Scheffler, Park and Preserves Division, distributed copies of a new brochure about Parks Interpretation. He explained that the goal is to interpret the natural cultural resources in the state parks, recreation areas and preserves, and the management thereof. He read a quote from the front of the brochure relating that understanding brings appreciation, respect and support not only of these areas but also of the DNR's programs. Mr. Scheffler further explained the brochure and details of the interpretive program. He presented a history of interpretation efforts in the parks stemming back to the 1930's and read an excerpt from a

brochure in that period. He noted that the Parks Division and Forestry Division have done some interpretive efforts such as Ft. Atkinson Rendezvous, Forest Craft Festival, and the Keel Boat to name a few. He related that there had not been funding available for a good interpretive program but there was a new ray of hope in 1999 with Director Johnson placing emphasis on these types of programs.

Michelle Wilson reported that in 1999 following the two-day strategic planning meeting of the Parks Division, a committee was set up to work on interpretation in state parks and preserves areas. She reported that the committee has met regularly and set framework to get the program off and running. The committee made a list of their wants and needs and developed a budget for the program. She related that the program was not funded this year but the Department will try again in the next budget request to get some funding allocated to this program. Ms. Wilson stated that the brochure was developed to get the word out about the Interpretive Program, and staff have visited with the County Conservation Boards, and Jim Pease of ISU, as well as other groups to get publicity on it. She noted that 17 seasonal naturalists would be hired to correlate with the 17 units in the state parks system. She related that there was training provided to the Superintendents in March to take back to the naturalists. She added that there would be a two-day training session with the seasonal naturalists in May. Ms. Wilson noted that some CCB's would also have representatives at the training session to help build relationships between the seasonal naturalists and the CCB system. She stated that staff would keep working to get four full time naturalists on board. She discussed the summer programs to be held in the parks.

Discussion followed regarding the mix of people involved as seasonal naturalists and the use of AmeriCorps volunteers; how the program would be incorporated into the preserves; and the unique and exciting projects in the program.

WHITE PINE HOLLOW ECO PLAN

John Pearson reported that staff is in the final stages of having an ecosystem management plan for White Pine Hollow. He noted that he will be mailing a draft of the plan to the Board within the next few days and would like the Board to provide changes and comments to him by June 15. He related that he would have the final draft to the Board for approval at the July meeting.

LAMSON WOODS TRAIL

John Pearson stated that he distributed copies of a letter from Jefferson County Trails Council and he circulated photographs of the bridge at issue. He noted that the Lamson Woods State Preserve is within the city limits of Fairfield, in

Jefferson County, and the DOT has acquired property North of the preserve as a wetland mitigation site in relation to the construction of Highway 218. Mr. Pearson said that there will be the creation of some wetlands to the North side of the park. He displayed a map showing the area of the wetland and the location where a dike would be built to impound some water. He related that the City of Fairfield would like to reconstruct some trails to focus on the wetlands and to provide a place to walk on the new DOT property, to allow visitors to view a restored wetland. Mr. Pearson related that the most logical location for the spur trail would be to access it from the Lamson Woods Trail and they are asking permission to build a spur to the North of the existing trail, which would go 15 feet across land in the preserves. In addition to approval for this trail site they are also asking that the Preserves Board pay for materials for a new bridge, at a cost of \$5,000. He added that they are also inviting the Board to meet in Fairfield sometime in the future to tour Lamson Woods and discuss placement of a restored schoolhouse on an area adjacent to the preserves parking area.

Robin Fortney asked how this fits with the Board's plan to get more people out on the preserves areas.

Mr. Pearson related that it would work well with that effort.

Lois Tiffany commented that they were alerted to this project by Laura McCormick who is doing a survey on Lamson Woods this year.

Mr. Pearson noted that it is following through on a suggestion by Ms. McCormick who alerted the city folks that they needed to coordinate with the Preserves Board.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to grant permission to the City of Fairfield for the 15 foot extension of the trail through the preserve. Seconded by Lois Tiffany. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Lois Tiffany to DENY the request for the Preserves Board to pay for the materials to build a new bridge. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

CAYLER PRAIRIE BURN PLAN REVISIONS

John Pearson displayed a map showing the areas where the State now owns 600 acres on three sides of Cayler Preserve. He explained that in addition to gaining semi natural buffers, it also gives an opportunity to replace former brome pasture with prairie, and provides an opportunity to redraw burn capabilities at Cayler. He explained the burn plan that has been used for 25 years at Cayler,

which was one known as a plat plan. Mr. Pearson explained how these burns were done and the burn cycle that was used. He discussed concerns with this plan about effects on the Dakota Skipper and pointed out on the map the favorite habitat areas of the Dakota Skipper. He related that he and Mark Leoschke, Daryl Howell, Doug Harr, and Jerry Selby from TNC, met at Cayler and spent a day discussing how to redesign the burn unit boundaries at Cayler. He related that they decided not to do any burns this year, adding that a twice burn schedule would not be done anymore. He noted that there are other areas of Dakota Skipper habitat on the newly acquired acres and those areas will need to be mapped so all of those acres are not burned out in a single year. He expanded on details of the burn plan noting that there are now nine burn units and more natural burn boundaries, such as valleys, ravines and waterways.

Brief discussion followed.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to approve the revisions to the burn plan at Cayler Prairie. Seconded by Timothy Sproul.

Timothy Sproul asked if the management people are comfortable with this plan.

John Pearson replied that Doug Harr is completely in agreement with the new burn plan.

Discussion followed about the rotation of the burn.

Vote on the motion carried unanimously.

Gary Phillips commented that future possible acquisitions adjacent to preserve areas should be given serious consideration because it will simplify management activities.

CHEEVER LAKE

John Pearson stated that this is an informational item and will probably be brought back in July for a decision. He provided background information on Cheever Lake in Emmett County, noting it is one of the few undrained, undiked wetlands remaining in the State in a natural condition. He added that there is a lot of diversity and an abundance of plants in that area. He reviewed recurring complaints from surrounding landowners about the height of the lake and related flooding of the land. He presented a history of these problems and noted that Al Farris, Division Administrator of the Fish & Wildlife Division, hired an engineering firm to re-examine the elevations of key points around Cheever Lake. He expanded on details of the study, displayed a chart showing elevations and observations at the lake over a period of time, and discussed related problems. Mr. Pearson noted that one point of contention is whether to lower the

elevation at the North outlet. He related that if the Department replaces the North outlet with a new structure it needs to be determined what elevation should be set. He stated that staff would like the Board to consider: 1) the south pool is a natural body of water controlled by natural obstructions and the staff position is that there should be no tampering with the natural dam that controls the water level in the south pool. He related that it has diverse aquatic vegetation that should be preserved as is; 2) the Board needs to decide what elevation should be set on the north pool. He related that the Department should establish what they believe to be the original natural elevation, adding that staff believes the natural mark to be between 98.5 – 99.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the ordinary high water mark; a fixed structure that could be manipulated; no need for an emergency spillway; and pending litigation against the state.

Mr. Pearson stated that staff would possibly come back to the Board with recommendations in July.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL RANKINGS

The following Score Sheet for FY2001 was provided to the Board in their agenda packet.

Proposal Score Sheet for FY 2001

<u>PROPOSAL</u>	Benefit	Feasibility	Methods	Total	<i>Rank</i>
Cady - Cameron Woods					
Cady – Indian Bluffs					
Cady – Manikowski					
Cady – Old State Quarry and Stainbrook					
Emerman and Parmelee – Rolling Thunder, Mt. Talbot, and Five-Ridge Prairie					
Freese and Brown – Behrens Pond					
Hazlet – Mt. Talbot					
Iowa Valley RC&D – Old State					

Quarry and Stainbrook					
Iowa Valley RC&D – Palisades-Dows					
King and Peters – Kish-Ke-Kosh					
McCormick – Savage Woods					
Nieman – Hanging Bog					
Tiffany and Healy – Several Preserves					
Tiffany, Joseph – Ames High					
TNC – Cayler Butterflies					
TNC – Prairie Rattlesnake					
VanDeWalle – Casey’s Paha					

Please provide preliminary scores for each evaluation criteria, the total score and rank the proposals in order of priority for funding in the case of tied scores. The ranks must go from 1 to 17 as there can not be any tied ranks. After discussion, the Board Members will complete final score sheets and staff will tally the scores to determine which proposals will be funded if funding is available.

Scoring Criteria

1. (10 points) Benefit of proposed study to state preserves or preserve system. Higher scores will be assigned to proposals which provide information pertinent to the management of individual preserves, contribute to solving management problems that affect several preserves, aid in identifying potential preserves, or otherwise yield information which can be used to improve the protection and management of preserves.
2. (10 points) Feasibility of proposed study. Are the goals and objectives of the study clearly stated and achievable? Is the requested funding commensurate with the effort required? Are the personnel qualified to perform the study?
3. (10 points) Soundness of methodology. Are the methods suited to the goals and objectives? Will the study have unacceptable impacts to the study sites? Are the number, size, and distribution of samples or observations sufficient? Are the analytical methods appropriate?

Lois Tiffany stated that her nephew submitted one of the proposals and she would exclude herself from voting on the proposals due to this conflict of interest.

Director Johnson stated the he would also choose not to rank or vote on the proposals, adding that he is in a strange position whereby he is to advise the Department and is not sure he should be on both sides of an issue. He added that he would make comments but would not vote in the matter.

John Pearson asked the Board members to give him their individual rankings.

Robin Fortney stated that since she is so new on the Board she would prefer not to rank, adding that she would like to use this as a learning experience.

Timothy Sproul noted that he did some partial rankings and others fell into a similar rank.

Following a brief discussion of various proposals the Board provided the following rankings by scoring the list from top to bottom.

Jonathan Steege: 5, 2, 16, 15, 4, 17, 10, 3, 9, 18, 14, 6, 7, 13, 11, 1, 12, 8.

Kathy Gourley: 17, 16, 15, 14, 18, 13, 5, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 4, 1, 12, 2, 6, 7.

Gary Phillips: 14, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 18, 8, 3, 16, 17, 13, 15, 2, 4, 1, 9, 10.

Mr. Pearson tallied the votes and presented the following results:

- 1 - TNC – Cayler Butterflies
2. - Freese and Brown Behrens Pond
3. – Nieman – Hanging Bog
4. – Hazlett – Mt. Talbot
5. – Cady – Indian Bluffs Preserve only
6. – VanDeWalle – Casey’s Paha
7. – McCormick – Savage Woods
8. – Tiffany, Joseph – Ames High
9. – TNC – Prairie Rattlesnake
10. – King & Peters – Kish-Ke-Kosh
11. – Cady – Manikowski
12. – Emerman & Parmelee – Rolling Thunder, etc.
13. – Cady – Cameron Woods
14. – Cady – Preserve + Indian Bluffs Wildlife Area + Pictured Rocks
15. – Cady – Preserve +Indian Bluffs Wildlife Area
16. – Iowa Valley RC & D – Palisades-Dows
17. – Cady – Old State Quarry & Stainbrook
18. – Iowa Valley RC&D – Old State Quarry & Stainbrook

Discussion took place regarding various aspects of some of the projects.

Robin Fortney felt that after discussion and learning more details of the projects she would rank the projects as follows.

Robin Fortney: 15, 10, 11, 12, 14, 13, 17, 3, 8, 4, 5, 18, 6, 16, 2, 1, 7, 9.

Gary Phillips indicated that he would like to change his ranking on Hanging Bog (project 14 on the list) from a ranking of 2 to a ranking of 8, and Behrends Pond (project 8 on the list) from a ranking of 8 to a ranking of 2.

Following further discussion of the projects Kathy Gourley indicated she would like to change her ranking on Cady (project 2 on the list) to a ranking of 5, and Emerman & Parmelle (project 7 on the list) to a ranking of 16.

Timothy Sproul offered his rankings as follows: 12, 3, 15, 5, 2, 14, 16, 6, 10, 17, 18, 9, 4, 6, 11, 1, 7, 8.

Mr. Pearson recalculated the rankings and noted the final project results as follows:

1. – TNC – Cayler Butterflies
2. – Freese & Brown – Behrens Pond
3. – Cady – Indian Bluffs Preserve only
4. – McCormick – Savage Woods
5. – Hazlett – Mt. Talbot
6. – Tiffany, Joseph – Ames High
7. – TNC – Prairie Rattlesnake
8. – VanDeWalle – Casey's Paha
9. – Nieman – Hanging Bog.
10. – Cady – Manikowski
11. – Cady – Preserve + _Indian Bluffs Wildlife Area + Pictured Rocks
12. – King & Peters – Kish-ke-Kosh
13. – Cady – Cameron Woods
14. – Cady – Preserve + Indian Bluffs Wildlife Area + Pictured Rocks
15. – Iowa Valley RC&D – Palisades-Dows
16. – Iowa Valley RC& D – Old State Quarry and Stainbrook
17. – Cady – Old State Quarry and Stainbrook
18. – Emerman & Parmelee –Rolling Thunder, Mt. Talbot, and Five-Ridge Prairie

Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Pearson calculated that projects ranking 1-8 could be funded at a total cost of \$21,111. He noted that project rated as #9, Hanging Bog, could be added bringing the total to \$29,391.

Robin Fortney asked about taking off the well construction costs for project #9 and Mr. Pearson indicated that would bring the total to \$25,391.

Discussion took place on exactly which projects could be funded with the funds available.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to approve the first eight projects listed under the final results. Seconded by Timothy Sproul. Motion carried unanimously with Lois Tiffany and Paul Johnson abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Chairman Steege stated that the next project, Hanging Bog, could be approved with a reduction of the cost of the well.

Timothy Sproul asked if Nieman should be offered the amount available and let them work out the details of how the project would be done.

Robin Fortney suggested that Nieman be given a shot at what remains in the funds and if they cannot make it work, go to the next project with the amount of money there is to offer.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to offer remaining funds (after projects 1-8) to Nieman, and if he cannot make the project work then go to projects 10 (Cady-Manikowski) and/or 11 (Cady+Indian Bluffs Wildlife Area+Pictured Rocks). Seconded by Timothy Sproul. Motion carried unanimously with Lois Tiffany and Paul Johnson abstaining.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Steege called for nominations for Chairman to take office at the July meeting.

Lois Tiffany nominated Gary Phillips for Chairman.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Gary Phillips. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Phillips nominated Lois Tiffany for Vice-Chair.

Motion was made by Gary Phillips to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Lois Tiffany as Vice-Chair. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Diane Ford-Shivvers asked when reports of the research projects from last year will be seen.

Mr. Pearson stated that he would arrange to have some of those reports available at the July meeting.

Gary Phillips suggested that the reports be given at the Iowa Academy of Science meeting.

Robin Fortney suggested placing a summary article in the Iowa Conservationist about these projects.

NEXT MEETING

Discussion took place in regard to possibly meeting in Fairfield.

Gary Phillips suggested visiting Five Ridge Prairie or Mt. Talbot and Broken Kettle.

After discussing possible dates, it was decided to do the tour on Thursday, July 27 and meet in the morning on Friday, July 28, in the Stone State Park area.

BOARD TOUR

The Board toured several geological preserves in the Ft. Dodge area and walked a portion of the trails at Brushy Creek on Monday, April 24, 2000.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the State Preserves Advisory Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2000.

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preserves), 3
Heard, Dr. Stephen (collect stem galls - various
preserves), 3
Knaphus, Dr. George (collect fungi on various
preserves), 3
Tiffany, Dr. Lois (collect fungi on various
preserves), 3
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